

REMARKS

Claims 24-46 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, 24, 30, 36, 38, 39 and 41 are amended.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Abdulsalam at the interview held May 20, 2003, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

An Information Disclosure Statement with Form PTO-1449 was filed in the above-captioned patent application on May 25, 2001. Applicant has not yet received from the Examiner a copy of the Form PTO-1449 initialed to acknowledge the fact that the Examiner has considered the disclosed information. The Examiner is requested to initial and return to the undersigned a copy of the Form PTO-1449. For the convenience of the Examiner, a copy of that form is attached.

II. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 24-35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,852,429 to Scheffer et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,818,557 to Konuma et al.; and claims 36-46 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,892,495 to Sakai et al. in view of Scheffer et al and Konuma et al. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Scheffer et al. and Sakai et al. do not teach, disclose or suggest "dividing a first time period which is part of a single frame into a plurality of sub-fields, and in each sub-field, turning on or off of each pixel by applying to the pixel a sequence of two-level signals controlled in accordance with a gray-scale level of the pixel for the gray-scale display; and turning on or off the pixels in a second time period being the remaining time period of the single time

frame, in accordance with a threshold voltage of a transmissivity characteristic," as recited in claims 24 and 30, and as similarly recited in claims 36, 38, 39 and 41.

Instead, Scheffer et al. discloses that the controller 54 initiates the process for converting the display data stored in storage circuit 72 into column signals having amplitudes beginning at step 82 (col. 72, lines 43-50; col. 21, lines 33-36; col. 26, lines 23-32). Thus, Scheffer et al. does not teach direct application of a sequence of two-level signals to the pixels for the gray-scale display.

Likewise, Sakai et al. does not relate to the recited claim features. Instead, Sakai et al. relates to a scanning circuit provided with a plurality of address lines and circuits.

Konuma et al. does not make up for the deficiencies of Scheffer et al. and Sakai et al. Instead, Konuma et al. relates to a gradation display in which the contrast ratio is obtained at 32 gradations (col. 32, lines 3-16).

Even if variously combined, Scheffer et al., Sakai et al. and Konuma et al. do not combine to result in the above-recited claim features.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 24, 30, 36, 38, 39 and 41 are patentable over the applied references. The dependent claims are likewise patentable over the applied references for at least the reasons discussed as well as for the additional features they recite. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 24-46 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
PTO Form 1449 dated May 25, 2001

Date: October 22, 2003

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